

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as anticipated by Lew. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Lew discloses a method for synchronizing audio signals generated from different audio sources with a dedicated operating clock in each case. These signals are being oversampled by digital PLLs (62 64) in order to synchronize themselves with the respective input signals, demodulate these input signals and derive a clocking information of the respective input signals (col. 9, lines 20-34). However, input signals 56 and 58 are not sampled with a common post-processing clock, as require by claim 1, bur rather with local oscillators 65 and 66 which have different operating clocks. The demodulated input signals are then transmitted to decoders 70 and 72 and saved in FIFO-buffers 86 and 88.

An ASWG gets as an input a master clock signal either derived from the clock of one of the input signals or generated in an external clock generator 78. This master clock is generally similar to the operating clocks of the respective input signals (col. 3, lines 28-32 and col. 11, lines 33-37). The ASWG counts how many samples of each input signal are within one period of the master clock and transmits this information (ASW) to FIFO-buffers 86 and 88 which transmit a corresponding number of samples (0, 1 or 2) to the interpolation filters 110 and 112. Theses samples are then interpolated to generate output samples synchronized with the master clock.

As readily apparent, input signals are not sampled using a common post-processing clock which is at least twice as fast as the fastest operating clock, as required by the claimed invention.

Since the recited structure is not recited by the applied prior art, the claims are patentable.

Claims 2-5 have been indicated as allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in independent form to include the base and any intervening claims.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122006400. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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